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## THE AMERICAN

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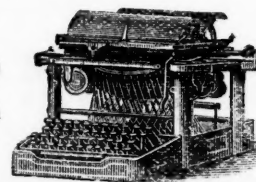
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## REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

THE new year witnesses the meeting of about thirty state legislatures, and the inauguration of new governments in several of the great cities of the land. The former possess a directly national importance in many cases. In two instances the division between parties is so close as to leave the result in doubt as to their choice of U. S. Senator. In six others at least the contest within the party of the majority is so keen that much interest attaches to the outcome.

In New Jersey and Indiana it is quite uncertain whether the new senator will be a Republican or a Democrat. In both states the Democrats have a *de facto* majority, which will be overthrown if the question of contests and of eligibility be fairly tested. In New Jersey they have exactly a majority of one, but this has been secured by shameful frauds in manipulating the returns in a Camden County district. It was the duty of Gov. Abbett to have corrected the wrong in this case; but he is a Democratic candidate for the senatorship, and he refused to be honest to his own hurt. Nor is this the only instance of false returns by which Democrats hold seats in the legislature. There are at least two other members of that party who ought to be unseated for fraud, while a third is believed to be ineligible because of unsoundness of mind.

In truth the politics of our neighbor state have been anything but savory for years past. Before the era of railroads, New Jersey probably was as clean in public matters as the make-up of its population would lead us to expect. But since the reign of Camden and Amboy began, it has been far otherwise. Every state election is characterized by liberal disbursements of money for purposes not recognized by the law, and both parties are grossly culpable, perhaps equally so. *The State Gazette* (Trenton) says:—

"In the election in this state last fall the corruption fund was larger than usual, on account of the important positions of Governor and United States Senator, and especially the latter, being involved. The funds raised by the party managers were so large as entirely to exhaust the banks in this city, and most likely in several other towns in the state, of all their small bills. We would not like to say how many thousand dollars were used by the two parties in Mercer County alone. We have too much respect for the reputation of the capital and for the state. In some counties in New Jersey the corruption fund was practically limitless, its employment being limited only by the supply of purchasable material. We do not pretend that one party is any less guilty than the other. If one party used less money than the other, it was because its resources were smaller, and not because its virtue was greater."

In New Hampshire, Michigan, New York, Nebraska, Massachusetts and other states, there are contests as to what Republican will be the next Senator. In California there is a similar struggle among the Democrats.

The contest in Massachusetts is between Senator Dawes and Mr. Long, both able men and worthy of the honor. But there has been a great upstir of feeling in the State over their comparative merits. Mr. Long is the younger man of the two, but Mr. Dawes's experience must count for something. Mr. Long is a better representative of the culture of the state, and that counts for much in Boston. Mr. Dawes never translated Virgil, but he drafted the Indian Severalty bill, and he has been a useful man in the Senate. Whichever way the choice falls, we may congratulate the Bay State. She at least is not constrained to call upon the bramble-bush to rule over her when her choice lies among such men.

In New York the contest is nearly as spirited between Mr. Miller and the candidates for his seat. It is impossible to claim that Mr. Miller was the deliberate choice of the State. He came to

the front in 1881 under very peculiar and exciting circumstances. But he also has been an effective member of the Senate, has shown far more ability than was expected of him, and has been right on nearly all great questions. His chief competitors are ex-Minister Morton and Representative Hiscock. Of the two the latter is greatly preferable. He has the touch of current affairs as Mr. Morton cannot have it. He is one of the ablest Republicans in the House. And if he excited some years back the hopes of the Revenue Reformers, he has disappointed those hopes by his active loyalty to the principles of the party. Had he been chosen Speaker in the XLVIIIth Congress, the situation of the party would have been much happier than it is.

The contests in New Hampshire and Michigan have attracted somewhat less attention. The place there is the vacancy caused by the death of Senator Pike, and ex-Secretary Chandler is a contestant. In Michigan Mr. Conger is having a sharp fight for his seat, and the same may be said of Mr. McMillan, in Minnesota. In Nebraska, however, there is a very animated struggle, Mr. Van Wyck being a vigorous fighter for his own reelection, opposed by ex-Senator Paddock. The former, it is now announced, will not go into a Republican caucus for the nomination,—this implying, no doubt, that he hopes to succeed by the help of the Democratic members of the Legislature. Mr. Van Wyck's eccentric demagogery has rendered him the most noteworthy member of the Senate, Mr. Riddleberger alone accepted, and as it is now certain that there will be almost an exact balancing of parties in that chamber, from 1887 to 1889, it will not be pleasing to the Republicans to have their control depending upon him.

In Indiana there is a notable difference between the two parties. The recent history of politics in that State has been closely parallel to that of Ohio, and Mr. John McLean has no more zealous disciples and imitators than the Democrats of Indiana. The whole federal patronage of the State has been employed to carry it for the Democracy, with such shameless defiance of the principles of Civil Service Reform as hardly Maryland could equal. The election machinery was in Democratic hands, and frauds as shameless as those of Cincinnati were employed to secure a Democratic legislature. In spite of all this the State went Republican, and it is doubtful if even the abominable gerrymander achieved by the last legislature has secured a Democratic majority in its successor. The Republicans hold the House. They are united and determined to assert their rights against the frauds they are prosecuting in the courts. They run no risk but that of an overhaste which may prejudice their case by a false step. Our hope is that they will prefer a defeat to doing anything that will not commend itself to all honest men as just and fair.

THERE is evidence that the Republicans in Congress do not intend to wait for the Democrats to take up the business of adapting the revenue to the limits required by the general government's outlay. Unfortunately the proposal which at present seems to receive the most favor among them is a compromise measure, which takes a piece out of several proposals of very unequal merit. It looks to a repeal of the tax on spirits used in manufactures, and of the tax on home-grown tobacco, and a partial reduction of the duty on sugar. But the objections to this precise programme are in some respects serious. Apart from the question whether it would not cut off too much revenue, it would not secure us, (unless some provision to that end should be added), the advantage which we ought to have, when we sacrifice the sugar duty,—the responsive concessions of the sugar-producing countries. Upon no account ought we to cut away this duty



without getting a price for doing so. It is worth a good deal to other nations, and we need very much to use its value in rebuilding our commerce and opening markets for our manufactured goods. The suggestion of repealing the tax on tobacco is now, as heretofore, a very questionable one. Why then throw away this income? Is there anything, except liquor, that so fitly carries a tax as tobacco? It would be a serious mistake to retain the duty on sugar or any part of it, while repealing the tobacco tax, for the one is a necessity and the other at least a luxury.

Mr. Long, who is regarded as the author of the plan of Republican action, complains very justly of the course taken by the majority of the Committee of Ways and Means in this matter. Repeated votes have shown that majority that they represent a minority of the House; yet they block the way against such legislation for the reduction of the surplus as the House is ready to entertain. They will permit no reduction which does not carry with it a blow at the protective character of the Tariff. They thus make a most unwarranted use of their power under the Rules of the House, as though those Rules were of equal authority with the principle of equity or the constitution of the country. It would have been far more becoming in Mr. Morrison and his associates, if they had resigned when they found themselves out of accord with the House itself.

MR. W. L. SCOTT, of this State, brings forward a proposition in connection with the disposal of the surplus, which is entitled to consideration on its own merits. It is substantially to conform our fiscal system to that of civilized nations generally, by taking the public money out of the isolated reservoirs called "sub-treasuries," and depositing it with the banks of the great cities. He says, very justly, that our national banks are not open to the objections which President Jackson brought against the centralized institution he overthrew, or to those which held good against the weak and ill-regulated state banks he preferred to the Bank of the United States. And it is from the sub-treasury system that the danger of accumulating a surplus really arises. Every coin that passes into the hands of the government passes out of the channels of trade until the government finds an occasion to pay it out again. It is the only great money-owner in the country which keeps no bank account; and as it is the greatest receiver of money, this omission on its part is the more mischievous. No European country and no enlightened State of the Union takes the risk of doing so much mischief. They all turn their revenues into the banks as fast as they are received, except England, which creates in its exchequer-notes a special currency for government receipts and payments.

A full account of the mischief of our present system will be found in Mr. Stephen Colwell's "Ways and Means of Payment" (1859.) And all our experience of the twenty-eight years since he wrote confirms his criticism.

THE Cullom-Reagan bill is provoking a great deal of opposition from the interests most affected by it. Of course New England sees no merit in regulations which would make her coal dearer and ours cheaper. She is sustained by some parts of the West, which might lose their Eastern market for wheat, if they were obliged to pay at the same rates as the Eastern farmers. So there may be expected a very determined resistance to the compromise report, especially in the Senate. But it will not be based on right reason, if we may judge from the misrepresentations of the bill's provisions, and the old-style outcry about "attacks on innocent interests," with which the measure has been assailed. We are hopeful that the sections which suffer at present from unjust discriminations will rally in sufficient numbers to carry it through both House and Senate, and that both its failures and its benefits will lead to such an amendment of the Constitution as will place all transportation of goods and passengers under national control and regulation.

A writer in the New York Tribune calls attention to the decay

of Eastern farms under the unjust competition which this bill is intended to correct. A farm which sold thirty years ago for \$3400, and now yields a net rent of \$50, he takes as an illustration. "To be made pay the farms must have the benefit of markets that their position gives them, must have their vested rights back again." He complains that they have been sacrificed to the supposed interests of a mass of foreigners, whom our Homestead Laws have tempted to occupy the public domain. And yet it is not so much the foreigners as the railroads and the middle men who have absorbed the profits of our existing arrangements. As Mr. Carey says, it is from traffic between distant points that the trader always exacts the heaviest profits. The West has not prospered, while the East has been in great measure devoured by the system we have tolerated.

A remarkable collision has taken place between two of the United States courts. That of the Seventh Circuit, over which Judge Gresham presides, recently interposed for the relief of the creditors of the Wabash system of railroads, against a receiver appointed by the District Court of Missouri, sitting in St. Louis. Judge Gresham took the ground that Judge Treat could not dispose of railroads which lie within the Seventh Circuit, and the choice of a receiver had been objectionable, as he was a member of the Jay Gould ring, which had been "milking" the road by dishonest contracts. He therefore appointed ex-judge Cooley, of Michigan, as a receiver of the lines, on whose behalf the application had been made. Judge Treat then retorted by cutting off from the jurisdiction of his own receiver all the roads of the system East of the Mississippi river, leaving Mr. Cooley to take charge of them. As these are in a majority of cases poor and unprofitable lines, the business of managing the whole system East of the Mississippi is likely to prove a difficult task. And it is made the more so as the receiver west of the Mississippi, in anticipation of this action, had drained these roads of all the desirable rolling-stock, which he took across the river. The temper of Judge Treat's decision, equally with the choice he made of a receiver, and the fact that his decision was anticipated, are not facts which tend to strengthen the public confidence in his judicial impartiality in this matter.

THE motion for a fresh trial for the Chicago Anarchists is accompanied by appeals to Gov. Oglesby from at home and abroad to commute their sentence to imprisonment for life. These are not reinforced by the conduct of the Anarchist organ in that city, which continues to exhort the workmen to arm themselves with guns, dynamite, or whatever is most effective, in view of "the coming struggle between labor and capital." Nor does it get any support from Mr. Powderly and the other recognized authorities among the Knights of Labor, who frown upon every expression of sympathy with these criminals, and insist that the cause of labor shall not be identified with that of murder and insurrection. If the Court of Appeals dismiss the motion for a new trial, Gov. Oglesby will consult the interests of the whole country by letting the law take its course.

THE suit to deprive the Andover professors of their position because they have ceased to teach the doctrines required in the creed drafted by the founders of the Seminary and made obligatory upon its professors, is based upon a series of articles published in the *The Andover Review*, and collected into the volume called "Progressive Orthodoxy." The public sympathy is with the professors, and it is generally admitted that they have defended themselves with an ability which much surpasses that shown in attacking them. But the question of right is not a matter of either sympathy or eloquence, and in that there is room for a difference of opinion. As regards the doctrine of death and what follows death, the creed uses only the language of the Scriptures, and thus leaves an opening for those who hold to an extended probation, if they can reconcile that with the Scriptures, as do the Westminster Confession and Catechisms. But in an earlier passage it seems to shut out the heathen from any extension of probation, by declar-



ing that the elect are brought under the teaching and influences of the Gospel in this life. Prof. Smyth refuses to accept the inference from this as binding him, on the ground that we are entitled to look for the teachings of the creed as to the future world in the part where that world is referred to with a distinct purpose, and in that only. We do not see the logic of this, and we think it the weak place in his defence. He who accepts a creed *ex animo*, accepts all necessary inferences from its teachings.

The attempt to impugn the orthodoxy of Andover on other points than this extension of probation, was made chiefly by Dr. Wellman, but in a way which shows how little theological learning is needed to constitute a champion of orthodoxy. Thus he insisted that the statement that the man Christ Jesus was not omniscient, was a denial of his divinity, and that the statement that "Christ is the head of every man" involved a belief in universal salvation. As Christ himself disclaimed omniscience, and as Paul made that statement, Dr. Wellman is a very dangerous champion of orthodoxy.

We think it quite possible that the Andover professors can be shown to be out of harmony with the creed adopted at the foundation of that Seminary. But the same was true of their predecessors in office, Moses Stuart and Edwards A. Park, whose declensions from the earlier standard were a matter of great anxiety to theologians like Dr. Dana. And the same is true of the assailants of Profs. Smyth and Harris, who regard Profs. Stuart and Park as orthodox enough for them. Should this controversy be taken into the courts and decided against the present professors, there will be no course open to the commonwealth but to take the Seminary property and hold it in trust, until a new generation of Danas shall arise to carry out the objects of the trust. It would be a breach of trust to commit it to the care of the alleged Orthodox who are carrying on this prosecution.

THE death of Bishop Potter of New York, and the resignation of Dr. Henry J. Morton, of St. James's parish in this city, remind us of the strong men who served a past generation, but are passing away. Bishop Potter undertook the Episcopal government of the diocese of New York at a time when the state of feeling was most painful among both people and clergy. By tact and good judgment he assuaged the feelings of bitterness which had been excited by the trial of Bishop Onderdonk, and brought matters to a calmer frame. Like his brother, Bishop Alonzo Potter of Pennsylvania, he was eminently successful as an administrator, but his attitude towards the other religious denominations was not calculated to conciliate their regard. His nephew and successor in his diocese is a man of much greater breadth.

Dr. Morton is the oldest pastor in Philadelphia, and one of the most beloved. He is a link which connects our generation with Bishop White's. During his long rectorate at St. James's church he has been at the call of every distressed and suffering person who has sought his aid. Not even the presence of infectious disease has deterred him from ministering to the suffering and dying, whether of his own flock or otherwise. The good he has done in a quiet way has been incalculable, but no blast of the trumpet has ever advertised it to the world. His resignation leaves Dr. Wylie, of the Presbyterian Church, the oldest acting pastor in the city.

THE churches of Philadelphia, with some exceptions, have undertaken a thorough canvass of all the houses in the city, with a view to ascertaining their religious affiliations, and of stimulating them to a more constant use of their opportunities for religious culture. Each church assumes the responsibility for an assigned district, and all oblige themselves to abstain from proselytism of any kind. The pastors of the churches will be notified, when the work is done, of the people in each district who profess a preference for their church, and invited to follow up the general visitation with pastoral visits.

The idea is a good one, if it be carried out with judgment.

If the churches really believe what they profess to believe, they have no right to ignore the practical indifference of great sections of the people to the higher interests of life. And if they undertake to press these interests on their attention in a courteous and friendly spirit, without assuming the air of the moral policeman, they will be welcomed in most cases very cordially. In religion as in politics a man is honored for standing by his colors.

The Lutheran churches of the General Council refused to take part in the visitation, because of their dislike to revivalist measures and machinery. We share in that dislike, but we see no reason for regarding this as essentially such in its character. And it is the more likely to degenerate into that, if the churches which prefer religious culture to seasons of special pressure and excitement, refuse to take any part in it.

THE Republican caucus at Harrisburg, Tuesday, nominated Mr. Quay for U. S. Senator, by a nearly unanimous vote. Several members were not present, and nine voted for Mr. Grow. This is in some respects an interesting spectacle. Mr. Quay would appear to be the most popular man in Pennsylvania, the ideal choice of half a million Republican votes for a seat in the Senate; yet we doubt whether this is really the case.

The caucus also appointed two committees,—one to prepare and report a bill to regulate railway freight charges, and the other to "take charge of" a prohibition constitutional amendment, the latter to include compensation to owners of property used in the manufacture or sale of liquor. This clause will undoubtedly cause discussion: it is not suggested by the State platform, but Mr. Cooper informed the caucus that "we have improved upon that." He also prudently suggested that the two sections of the amendment should be submitted separately, so that the people could adopt either, or both, or neither.

THE significance of the defeat of the Conservatives in the province of Ottawa is somewhat exaggerated in the newspaper comments. It is quite true that if the general election to the Dominion Parliament should result in the same way, the Macdonald Government will be obliged to retire from office. And it is possible that this may be the ultimate outcome. But the issues on which the Conservatives sustained this provincial defeat were not those of the politics which divide the whole Dominion. The question of religious teaching in the schools is left entirely to the provinces, as it is to the American States. And the attempt of the Ottawa Tories to proscribe the Roman Catholics of the province met with deserved resistance from many voters who agree with Sir John Macdonald as to the general policy of the Dominion. Were the general election to be held immediately, the local election might react disastrously on the fortunes of the Dominion administration. But in the interval this local and temporary issue will have time to be forgotten.

THE complication created by the resignation of Lord Randolph Churchill has received such solution as the situation admits of, in that Mr. Goschen succeeds him as the Chancellor of the Exchequer, with the consent of both Lord Hartington and Mr. Chamberlain. This binds the Liberal Unionists more closely to the fortunes of the present government, and postpones indefinitely the hopes of a reunion of the Liberal party. But it does not cement the Tory party, as would the return of Lord Randolph to the ministry. There is a very large body of Tories who resent any step which looks like the formation of a coalition ministry. They are ready to risk the fortunes of the party on the fact that it has almost a majority, and that the Liberal Unionists dare not do anything to help to its defeat. They think that the Liberal Unionists got all they were entitled to when the Tories did not oppose their election even in doubtful constituencies. To that fact alone it is due that they are 78 strong in the House of Commons. Without that they would not have a score of members, and the remainder even if equally divided would have given the Tories a majority in the House. And they resent the demand of

men like Lord Hartington and Mr. Chamberlain to be considered at every turn, as our Democrats resent the self-importance of the Mugwumps. It is not unlikely that this state of feeling in the party will strengthen Lord Randolph's hands, if he should have recourse to his old policy of bushwhacking.

Throughout the whole business Lord Hartington has behaved with a good deal of dignity. He notified the Tories that the only coalition ministry he could enter was one he had helped to make, not one he had found made to his hand. And he assured them of his own support and that of his friends, regardless of the presence or absence of Whigs in the ministry. On the other hand Mr. Chamberlain either has been grossly belied by the newsmongers, or he has been playing a double part ever since the resignation of Lord Randolph was announced. We prefer to believe the former, for he is not such a fool as to ruin his own political future by attending a conference of Unionists at Lord Hartington's, while actively engaged in negotiations for the dissolution of that party.

MR. GOSCHEN has the technical abilities for the conduct of his new office, and he probably will be a much better Chancellor than his predecessor. But to his office is attached the leadership of the House of Commons, and for that he is quite unfit. He is liked by nobody, and is distrusted by a great many since his share in the Egyptian imbroglio was brought to light by Mr. Keay. He has an intellectual contempt even for the average Liberals, and something more for "the great stupid party," under which he is taking office. And this feeling the younger Tories at least will cordially reciprocate. He belongs to the Cobdenite Whigs, a class to which the Tories have an instinctive repugnance. And while he agrees with them in disbelieving that Englishmen or Irishmen are quite unable to govern themselves, he dissents from their conviction that "the upper classes" are in any sense better qualified for the task. If his programme were possible, England would be in the hands of half a dozen utilitarian Free Traders.

He is not a leader who will conciliate the Irish opposition. Of all the opponents of the Home Rulers, he was the most contemptuous, and his defeat in Edinburgh by Mr. Costello was hailed by them with frantic joy. His new elevation gives them an opportunity to return his insults in kind, of which Mr. Healy and Mr. Sexton will make ample use. And the Liberals generally will not sorrow over the woes of a Whig who took office under the Tories to save the Tories.

In Ireland the Castle government has displayed its animus and its partiality by setting aside every Catholic juror in the new panel summoned at Sligo. In this way it has managed to frustrate the honesty of the judge, who quashed the first panel for its manifest unfairness. Under the Irish jury law the crown has the right to challenge jurors without limitation and without reason given. The shameless use made of this right furnished one of the reasons for which the House of Lords quashed the verdict against Mr. O'Connell and his friends. But the law remains unaltered, and nothing in the O'Connell case exceeds the license used in packing the juries at Sligo this year with Protestants. In several cases the accused refused to defend themselves before such juries, and their counsel left the court.

SIR JOHN POPE HENNESSEY has been removed by this Tory government from his post as governor of the Mauritius, because his policy resulted in collisions between the races inhabiting the island. Behind that lies a story which Sir John will give to the world at no distant date. This is the third governorship of a colony in which he has incurred that charge. He was assailed on much the same ground for his administration of Barbadoes and of Hong Kong. The fact of the matter is that he is one of the few British satraps who has a passion for justice, and does not care a fig what is the color of the man's skin who appeals to him for fair play. At Hong Kong he acted on the shocking maxim that Chinese have rights which Englishmen are bound to respect, and he earned such regard among the people of Eastern Asia, that his visit to

Japan was made an ovation by the Japanese, to the disgust of Sir Harry Parkes and other English bullies resident there. In Barbadoes he laid the negroes under boundless obligations by his vindication of their rights under the law. In Mauritius he must have belied his own record if he has not been trying to see that every resident of the island has equal rights before the law.

The Tories are the more ready to listen to the charge brought against him, as on a recent visit to his native country he avowed his sympathy with the Nationalist aspirations of the Irish people, and reinforced their case by some apt and telling comparisons of their condition with that of other people, regarded as wretchedly oppressed. Perhaps they will have reason to regret his recall, if the Home Rule party find him a seat in the House of Commons. There is no living Irishman who is his superior in administrative ability, or in governmental experience.

THE New Year's speeches at both Berlin and Vienna were so pacific in tone, that hopes for the preservation of peace in Europe have taken a new lease of life. There was no such speech at St. Petersburg, but it is said on less trustworthy authority than his public utterances, that the Czar greatly desires peace, in spite of his irritation at the Bulgarians.

#### HOW MUCH SURPLUS IS THERE?

THERE is no sort of agreement as to the amount of the surplus revenue. It is variously spoken of at all figures from thirty to thirty-five millions per annum up to a hundred millions. The President, in his message to Congress, estimated that for the current fiscal year there will be a surplus of ninety millions, the receipts being \$356,000,000, and the expenditures \$266,000,000. But Secretary Manning stated a different and lower amount, though he pointed out that for the seven years past the annual surplus, exclusive of the amount used for the purchase of silver bullion, had averaged one hundred millions.

As a matter of fact, the experience of the past is the best basis for future calculation. If the revenue laws remain as they now are, and if the appropriations are not greatly increased, the excess of income will be nearly or quite one hundred millions a year. The Treasury statements show in cold figures what was the experience of 1886. The total interest-bearing debt, on January 1, 1886, was 1260½ millions of dollars; on January 1, 1887, it was 1130½ millions. There had been, in the twelve months, a cancellation of 130½ millions. Part of it, of course, was effected by drawing upon the too-heavy balances in the Treasury, in response to the loud call of Congress, but without going into an elaborate analysis to show how far this was the case, the fact is safely asserted that a hundred millions excess of revenue was received.

In connection with this, it is proper to point out that the reservation of the "sinking fund" will cease to be practically operative after the three per cents are redeemed, for the simple reason that the money cannot be allowed to accumulate in the treasury vaults, and that it cannot be used for retiring bonds as none are redeemable. The excess, therefore, of revenue over expenditure will not be subject to the "sinking fund" deduction; it will stand at the full sum shown by subtracting the one from the other.

The problem is one of magnitude. Its importance has been dwelt upon in these columns many times, during the past four years, and actual contact with it is likely to bear out all we have said as to the need of dealing with it vigorously and broadly. It is not a matter for cheese-paring statemanship.

#### FREE SHIPS GALORE.

MR. DUNN, of Arkansas, whose constituency naturally is interested in the extent and prosperity of our mercantile marine and the activity of our ship-yards, has introduced a bill to admit ships of foreign build to American registration. This is the meaning of the cry for "Free Ships!" as our readers well know. A ship is the freest article of commerce known to the United



States. It is the one thing of value that competes with American capital and labor, which our Tariff laws do not touch. Ships are practically on our free list, being ignored by our Protective Tariff. There is not a discriminating duty in the statute-book which favors American tonnage. There is not a charge or duty in any American port which rests less heavily upon an American ship than any other. There is not a penny of outlay upon the carriage of the mails in favor of our own ships at the expense of others. Our ports are the cheapest places in the world for foreign ships to lie, because there are no light dues to pay, and every favor is shown them. And it was only by the act of the XLVIIIth Congress that we ceased to lay on our shipping the costs of our consular system and a multitude of lesser burdens which are borne by the shipping of no other country.

We publish elsewhere two letters on this subject of Free Ships, which were received by an importing and shipping firm of this city. That from the Bureau of Navigation fully bears out our statement as to the liberty our laws give to every American citizen or firm. And this liberty is fully enjoyed. At least four of the great steamship lines which cross the Atlantic are American property, although three sail under the flags of Belgium and the United Kingdom, and one of them consists of ships of American build. Our American law presents not the slightest obstacle to this arrangement. So far as it is concerned, Americans can go on to buy up the whole merchant shipping of England, if they be so minded. They are free to buy where, when and as much as they like. But the letter from the British Consul calls their attention to a drawback, which exists not in our laws but in those of the United Kingdom. These laws forbid any one but a British subject from owning even a share in a ship sailed under the British flag. We may presume from the openness with which the recent purchasers of a British line disregarded this law, that it is regarded as practically obsolete. Probably any attempt to enforce it would be followed by its immediate repeal. The ship-building interest in England is much too powerful to permit any serious restriction on their market for shipping. If the question of its repeal were raised, it would be objected that England has nothing to gain by retaining on her registration vessels which belong to the citizens of other countries, and whose earnings go to enrich the people of those countries. But it would be replied that she has several things to gain. The first is a freer market for ships of English build, which thus secures employment for English labor, and the maintenance and development of her ship-building capacity. The second is the commercial prestige of owning and employing the largest mercantile marine in the world. The third is the right to tax these ships in peace, and to take them for the transportation of men and supplies in case of war, and the withholding the same right from the nations whose citizens actually own them.

We suggest that the agitation for Free Trade in ships should now be carried over into England, and that it should not cease until the last remnant of her Navigation Laws has been repealed. It is not an American but an English law which is the last obstacle to Free Trade. Our registration laws impose no such burden, as recent experience has shown. The law has stood as it now stands since the first administration of George Washington. It will last through the administration of Grover Cleveland. What the compromisers of 1816 and 1835 did not do, the Revenue Reformers of 1887 will not do, and the more so as no question of revenue is involved.

If Mr. Dunn and his friends are really concerned for the development of our ship-building and ship-owning capacity, it is very easy for them to take a leaf out of our early legislation. Let them enact that the duties imposed by our Tariff shall be one-fourth higher in case the commodities on which they fall are not imported in ships of American build and registration. Twenty years of persistence in such a policy would give us the first mercantile marine of the world. It would force the caulkers and carpenters of the Tyne and the Clyde to seek employment on the Hudson and the Delaware, as Edward III. forced the wool-weavers and fullers

of Flanders to migrate to Norfolk and Shropshire. It would find employment for a great mass of our own laborers, and would give an impetus to our iron, steel, coal and lumber trades, such as they never have known. It would fly the American flag at a thousand masts, and in every case over a ship which bore the mark of the American hammer on the keel. But it would be an end to our Free Trade in shipping.

This policy, much more than subsidies, is that which commends itself to practical common sense. It could not endanger the national balance-sheet by making unexpected demands on the Treasury in the face of a falling revenue. It has been justified by actual experience, for it was under the protection of just such laws that our fast-sailing vessels of the old days were built and navigated. And it was the repeal of such laws by our Free Traders which left us helpless when the great shift from wood to iron, and from sail to steam, revolutionized the carrying trade of the world.

#### PERSIA AND THE PERSIANS.<sup>1</sup>

**S**ITUATE on the horizon of our geographical acquaintance, Persia has been known rather through the visions of poets than by the records of travelers. It gleams with the brightness of fancy that sheds strange light on the vague outlines of fact. The poets of Western Europe have made us somewhat familiar with the thoughts and pictures of Hafiz, Firdousi and Saadi. Above all Persia is to our minds the land of Lalla Rookh. Yet Persia is a nation of the present day, and shares in the restless onward movement of our time. A few years ago the present Shah visited the capitals of Europe and was entertained by their sovereigns. The Persian government has entered into diplomatic relations with the United States, and in 1882 our government commissioned the first American minister to its court, Mr. S. G. W. Benjamin, who had the honor of establishing the legation at Teheran, had resided in the Levant in early life, and was well qualified for his peculiar diplomatic work. He improved the advantages of his official position for observing the condition, manners and institutions of this typical oriental country. During his two years' sojourn he published in the *Century* and in other magazines some sketches of contemporary Persia. Since his return, freed from the restraints of office, he has elaborated his views, and now gives to his countrymen a careful study of the remote land and people to whom he bore the assurance of our national good will. The volume, a handsome quarto, deserves praise as an excellent specimen of the book-maker's art. Paper, typography, binding and illustrations alike refresh the eye and gratify the taste. Mr. Benjamin, as an experienced writer, has not forgotten to add an index to his book.

Without attempting any outline of the work we extract a few passages which may better furnish some notion of its style and contents. From the description of Teheran, take the following testimony to Persian wealth and magnificence: "The most imposing portion of the palace of Nasr-ed-Deen Shah is the grand audience-chamber, which in dimensions and splendor of effect is one of the most imposing halls in the world. The ceiling and mural decorations are of stucco, but so were those in the Alhambra. The floor is paved with beautiful glazed tiles, arranged in the most exquisite mosaic. In the centre of the hall is a large table overlaid with beaten gold, and a long row of arm-chairs are massively splendid with the same costly material covering every inch of space. At the end of the hall, facing the entrance, is the famous Peacock Throne, brought from Delhi by Nadir Shah, covered with gold and precious stones in a profusion that places the lowest estimate of its value at not less than thirteen millions of dollars. The magnificence of the Shah's audience-hall is still further heightened by the fact that here also are stored many of the crown jewels. The reserve of coin and bullion which the Shah has saved from his revenues, equal it is said to a sum of thirty millions of dollars, is safely locked up in the vaults of the palace. But one need only see the treasures in the audience-hall to obtain an idea that Persia is still a land of wealth, and that the tales of splendor recounted in oriental story were not wholly the fictions of a fancy steeped in opium or b'hang. Among the spoils of ages gathered in the Shah's treasury are superb crowns and jeweled coats-of-mail dating back four centuries to the reign of Shah Ismael. In a glass case one sees a large heap of pearls dense as a pile of sand on the seashore. Diamonds, rubies, emeralds and sapphires catch the eye at every turn, sometimes flashing forth like a crimson or a green fire on the boss of a buckler or helmet worn at the front of battle ages ago. One ruby there is in that mine of splendor which, on being placed in water, radiates a red light that colors the water like the blood of the vine of Burgundy. There, too, is

<sup>1</sup>PERSIA AND THE PERSIANS. By S. G. W. Benjamin. Pp. xvii. and 495. Illustrated. Boston: Ticknor & Co. 1887.

a globe of the world, twenty inches in diameter, turning on a frame of solid gold; the surface of the earth is represented by precious stones, different colors being used to indicate the divisions of land and sea; the ocean is entirely of turquoise, and Persia is represented by a compact mosaic of diamonds. The famous Dar-i-noor, or Sea of Light, the second of known diamonds in quality, size, and value, is kept carefully locked in a double iron chest, but is shown on rare occasions, and is worn by his majesty on great state days."

From this blaze of gems let us turn to the sketch of one of the rulers of the country, Izz-ed-Douleh, brother of the Shah. "He is a small, slightly built, boyish-looking man. He wears a closely cropped, iron-gray mustache; his general manner is very quiet, not to say diffident, suggesting a character mild and retiring were it not for the small, steel-colored, lizard-like eye, darting restless, furtive glances. These eyes betray a nature quite opposite to what one might infer on a first interview. The Prince is a man of gentlemanly tastes and studious habits; he reads the literature of America as well as of Europe, and is familiar with French and English. He converses with some intelligence, and in such tone as to lead to the conclusion that he is one of the most enlightened and least fanatical men in Persia. And yet this seemingly inoffensive gentleman, when he was Governor of Kermanshah, actually caused seventeen men to be strangled in his presence. As Governor of Hamadan, he has also given the United States Legation more trouble than any other Persian official. Friendly enough during the interchange of visits, and earnestly disavowing, when approached on the subject, any intention of ordering or permitting the outrages committed against the United States citizens in Hamadan, one needed to know him long and well before he could believe what a capacity for evil dwells in the character of this Prince." Here we have surviving in our own day the type of the Persian despot, as shown not only in the pages of the Greek Herodotus, but in the earliest records of the race—sleek and beautiful as a tiger, but as cruel and blood-thirsty.

The most interesting chapter in Mr. Benjamin's book is that in which he describes the tragedy of the Tazieh, or the Passion-Play of Persia. This remarkable combination of religious fervor and dramatic art represents the martyrdom of Hossein, the grandson of Mahomet, who was treacherously put to death because he refused to renounce his claims to supremacy over Islam. The full performance as presented before the Shah, occupies the afternoon and evening of ten successive days. It is not easy for those of other beliefs to gain access to the royal Takieh, the splendid building in which this drama is unfolded. By special favor Mr. Benjamin was permitted to witness three scenes of the extraordinary performance, when as a concession to popular feeling he wore the Persian black conical cap of sheepskin, but even he could not be allowed to behold the culmination of the tragedy, the solemn scenes of the last three days.

Let two paragraphs suffice for our present purpose, the former relating to the overture, the latter to the act of the fifth day: "The last band had ceased its music and disappeared, when in the gate through which they had entered another group was seen collecting and forming. In front, facing the audience, were several children dressed in green; at their side warriors gathered glittering in the chain armor and gold inlaid helmets of past ages. Suddenly on the solemn silence, like the thrill of a bird at night, came the voice of one of the children, low and solemn, then rising to a high, clear tone indescribably wild and thrillingly pathetic—a tragic ode of remarkable power and effect. He who has once heard that strain can never forget the impression it made, although altogether different from the minor chords of European music. This song of lamentation was an announcement to the spectators that they were to prepare themselves to behold a soul-moving tragedy—the martyrdom of Hossein and the grandchildren of the Prophet. Other voices gradually joined in the chant, one by one, until a sublime choral elegy pealed over the vast arena with such an agony of sound that it actually seemed as if these actors in this theatric scene were giving expression to their own death-song. Still chanting, the troop gradually entered the arena, and with slow and measured tread marched around the stage and ascended the platform. There they formed in double ranks, and with low obeisance paid their salutations to the Shah.

"The act for this particular day began with a scene between Zeineb and Hossein [sister and brother]. In an impassioned colloquy they lamented their fate, and encouraged each other to the exercise of mutual endurance and fortitude. As the scene closed she sank to the dust, and throwing ashes on her head lapsed into an attitude of impressive silence. Superb in the representation of lamentation and affliction was the scene which followed, when the young Alee Acbar, son of the dead Hassan, heroically resolved to go forth and fight his way to the river, and bring water for the sufferers in the camp. Clad in armor, the youthful

hero submitted himself as a sacrifice, for he never expected to return. Magnificent were the pathetic tones in which he sang as it were his own requiem; the words rang forth like a trumpet to the farthest nook of the vast building, and the response came in united wailings from the thousands gathered there. Beginning in a low murmur like the sigh of a coming gale, the strange sound arose and fell like the weird music of the south wind in the rigging of a ship careening in a dark night on the swelling surges of an Atlantic storm. For several moments sobs and sighs, and now and again a half-suppressed shriek, swept from one side of the building to the other. Strong men wept; there was not a dry eye in the loggia where I was seated, except my own; and I confess that I was not altogether unmoved by this impressive scene."

#### AMERICAN OWNERSHIP IN FOREIGN VESSELS.

A GENTLEMAN of this city, desiring to have an authoritative statement as to the legal obstacles there might be in the way of owning partly or entirely vessels sailing under a foreign register and flag, wrote notes of inquiry upon the subject to the Treasury Department at Washington, and to Captain Clipperton, the English Consul at this port. The answers to his note we give below:

##### I.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, BUREAU OF NAVIGATION,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 20, 1886.

MESSRS.

GENTLEMEN: Referring to your letter of the 15th instant, I have to state that there is no law of the United States to prevent your owning a portion or the whole of any vessel sailing under the British flag. Such vessels, however, will not be entitled to the privilege of vessels of the United States.

Respectfully, yours,

JARUS PATTEN, Commissioner.

##### II.

BRITISH CONSULATE, PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 18, 1886.

GENTLEMEN: In reply to your note of the 15th instant, I have to inform you that no persons can own a share or shares in a British ship, who do not owe allegiance to the British Crown, and are subject to British law. Such persons are:

- (a.) Natural-born subjects, who have not sworn allegiance to any foreign State, or who, having done so, have subsequently sworn allegiance to Her Majesty.
- (b.) Persons who have been made denizens or naturalized, and have subsequently sworn allegiance to Her Majesty.
- (c.) Bodies corporate, subject to the laws of, and having their principal place of business in, some part of Her Majesty's dominions.

And with respect to natural-born subjects who have sworn allegiance to any foreign State, and to persons who have been made denizens or naturalized, it is required as a further condition that they shall either be resident in the British dominions, or members of a British factory, or partners in a house actually carrying on business in the British dominions.

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT CHARLES CLIPPERTON, Her Majesty's Consul.

MESSRS.

Philadelphia.

#### BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

FEW people realize the extent of territory that extends beyond the northern boundary of the United States; and fewer still realize the wonderful system of lakes, rivers and salt seas almost entirely surrounded by land, which are comprised within this vast country. All of which, with the exception of Newfoundland and eastern Labrador, forms the Dominion of Canada. The entire area of land surface is about 3,500,000 square miles, and about equals that of the United States, including Alaska. But the population is less than five millions, and during the last eighteen years it has not increased over 500,000. Probably the chief reason why so little is known about the great northern land, is because so large a proportion of it is totally, or to a great extent uninhabited. Comparatively speaking the real Canada is little more than a fringe along the northern border of the Republic. There is no place east of the Rockies where the region fit to be a residence of civilized humanity extends more than a few hundred miles from the American line. A few years since Lord Dufferin, while Governor General of Canada, in a public speech declared that he had the honor of ruling over more ice and snow than any other potentate on earth. It is probable that this claim might have been successfully disputed by the Czar of Russia. But we cannot doubt that the brilliant Irishman's authority extended over an enormous extent of the congealed liquid. Roughly speaking Canada reaches from the 55th to the 130th degree of west longitude, and from the 48th parallel of north latitude to somewhere in the neighborhood of the North Pole. But until we approach the backbone of the continent, we find no situation above the 52d parallel which can ever be occupied by a dense population. In British Columbia and in some sections directly east of the mountains, the mean annual temperature is so high and the soil so finely adapted to agriculture,



that with proper development, large rural communities might be supported a long distance north of this limit. These districts are also lavishly supplied with magnificent forests, and the coal deposits seem to be literally exhaustless. As yet the iron, gold and silver mines are an unknown quality; but they may be safely set down as of immense value.

While the larger portion of Canadian territory is unfit for human habitation, the districts which are habitable are capable of supporting several times their present population. In Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, the western territories and British Columbia, there is every opportunity for 30,000,000 of people to reside and enjoy as good an average degree of comfort as the inhabitants of any country on earth. And the maritime provinces, with their marvelous harvests from the sea, their grand coal and mineral resources, and their almost imperial facilities for producing apples and potatoes, would not be overcrowded with a population of seven or eight millions. We must admit that sufficient time has elapsed since the settlement of British America for the whole country to reach a high state of development. Were there no causes to prevent its development other than those occasioned by nature, we cannot see why this land should not be nearly as far advanced as the United States. As we have already indicated, in climate and in other respects the country presents every inducement to an emigrant from any portion of northern Europe, and we cannot doubt that were all man-created obstacles removed, we should find thousand of settlers where we now find hundreds.

The very slow growth of Canada's population means something more than the fact that emigrants are not attracted to its cities and wide farming districts. If not one person from a foreign land had become a resident of this country since its erection into a Dominion, we should have a right to look for a much larger population than is now found within its boundaries. Like the races from which they spring the Canadians increase very rapidly from natural sources. Their climate is remarkably healthful; a very large proportion of them are out-door workers; and the generally high standard of morals forms a strong bulwark against the attacks of such diseases as are transmitted from generation to generation, and eventually produce race decay. Large families are the rule in all the English-speaking districts, and excepting during the prevalence of epidemics the number of births greatly exceeds the number of deaths. In the French-speaking portions of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec, the balance on the right side is even greater. Without any emigration the population of Canada should more than double in the course of twenty years. But we find that although quite a large number have come to stay since 1867 the actual increase of population has not been over one-tenth. This means that hundreds of thousands of Canadians have become permanent residents of the Republic. At present the southward emigration is so large that the home increase may be stopped altogether. Every steamer or sailing vessel that goes to the States from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick or Prince Edward's Island takes away young men and women, who depart for the simple reason that they cannot get a living at home. And the departures of those who are most needed at home from Quebec, Ontario and other provinces are fully as numerous.

For the true cause of this unsatisfactory tendency we can look in only one direction. With all other conditions so favorable, if the government was what it should be such an exodus could not occur. But the present Dominion Government is not of a nature to inspire confidence in the country's future, or to hold out attractive inducements for the youth of the nation to remain under its sway. And so the moment they come to years of understanding, they depart to that country which in Canada has come to be considered a land of promise. Here the experience of their friends and relatives gone before gives them every encouragement to hope for a high degree of prosperity. It is wrong to suppose that these departures are occasioned by any lack of patriotism. The Canadians in all sections exhibit a love of their native land which is not excelled by the inhabitants of any other nation. The emigration goes on simply because no other course is open to persons of their intelligence and energy.

Such logic of events seems to demonstrate that there is something wrong with Canada's organized authority, and the foundation fault cannot rest with any one political party. The Liberals declare that when they are able to supplant the Conservatives, most of the national troubles will immediately vanish; and the Conservatives are equally certain that if they should be turned out of office the country would go to destruction with awful rapidity. But a disinterested observer is able to see that the real trouble is not with either party, but rather with the form of government they try to administer. This Dominion, with its practical home rule and other approaches to absolute independence, is still in a position which she cannot long retain. Her people are not the sort to secure a high degree of national enjoyment while they remain in

any sense a dependency. It will not take many years to decide whether Canada will become an independent nation, or yield to the demands of her own annexationists and allow her provinces to become States of the American Union. The third alternative, that of Imperial Federation, is a scheme so visionary and contrary to nineteenth century tendencies, that it is unworthy of a moment's serious consideration. Geographical and many other reasons which are already apparent, would make its application to Canada a permanent impossibility. On the other hand, as the elements of the population become more intermingled and generalized, and consequently assume more of a national character, this northern country will, in the opinion of the writer, at length find itself equipped to stand alone and assume a respectable position among the powers of the earth.

While such is the most probable destiny of the St. Lawrence country and the provinces farther north, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward's Isle, and probably New Brunswick can never be satisfied while in any way connected with Canada proper. These provinces are so situated that their commercial and social relations are with the United States to a much larger degree than with the Dominion. Notwithstanding the fact that the Ottawa government has employed every means at its command to transfer the trade allegiance, after eighteen years the preference of the people remains unchanged. In spite of many circumstances that operate to obstruct channels of trade that extend to New England, throughout the maritime country the inclination for business relations with Massachusetts and Maine constantly grows stronger, and not a dollar's worth of goods is bought from Quebec and Ontario, beyond such articles as we are obliged to receive from those provinces.

Nova Scotia has marked out the course which the other maritime provinces will be forced to adopt. Her electors by an overwhelming majority have demanded that she be allowed to retire from the Confederation; and when by one means and another the object of this demand is received, as it undoubtedly will be, the next step of necessity must be toward annexation. When the times for such a movement are ripe, Canada, or even England, will not be in a position to prevent its successful issue.

ADDISON F. BROWNE.

#### SONNET.

OAK prince, large-limbed, and helmeted, tall pine,  
As on me ye gaze down in silentness—  
Despite the breeze that round your boughs doth press  
And carry to you this quaint thought of mine—  
The passionate feelings which my heart incline  
To converse with you, do they naught confess  
Save my growth outward 'neath life's fuller stress  
And evolution? This their only sign?  
Or is the evolution of yon trees  
In its way potent likewise, unities  
With my life seeking, and, with veiled eyes,  
Hands stretch ye to me; while I think, in pride,  
Your muteness with my mind to magnetize?—  
Does life pulse not less strong on either side?

WILLIAM STRUTHERS.

Crescentville, Philadelphia.

#### WEEKLY NOTES.

SIGNOR LANCIANI, of the University of Rome, who will lecture before the University of Pennsylvania next month, is now engaged in delivering a course of ten lectures before the Johns Hopkins University on Roman Archaeology. He has charge of the excavations now in progress in Rome which have unearthed so many art and antiquarian objects. In view of his lectures the authorities of the Johns Hopkins University have published a very complete bibliographical list, specially detailing the works, and magazine and newspaper articles, of the lecturer. Prof. Lanciani has been in this country some months, and received an honorary degree at the Harvard jubilee. He speaks English fluently.

THE old First Church of Boston, the church of Wilson, Mitchell and Davenport, now a Unitarian church, has called to its pastorate Rev. Stopford Wentworth Brooke, of England. The Boston papers call attention to his being the son of the Rev. Stopford Brooke, the biographer of Frederick Robertson, and the historian of English literature, to say nothing of his brilliancy as a popular London preacher. But they do not seem to be aware that he is a scion of a most remarkable Anglo-Irish family, which first blossomed into literature in the person of Henry Brooke, the author of "Gustavus Vasa," and "The Fool of Quality." His nephew, Henry Brooke, Jr., was a notable friend of John Wesley's, and a

considerable figure in the religious history of the time. His daughter, besides editing her father's works, made the first collection of native Irish poetry and music. Another of the family was Mrs. Tighe (*née* Brooke), the author of "Psyche." Yet another was Gustavus Vasa Brooke, the notable actor, who was lost in the *Arctic*. Brains seem to be hereditary in the family, and we shall look for something remarkable from this branch which has been transplanted to America.

#### REVIEWS. RECENT FICTION.

IN THE CLOUDS. By Charles Egbert Craddock. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

AGNES SURRIAGE. By Edwin Lasseter Bynner. Boston: Ticknor & Co.

HALF MARRIED. By Annie Bliss McConnell. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.

HOMESPUN YARNS. By Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

THE SENTIMENTAL CALENDAR. Being twelve funny Stories by J. S. of Dale. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons.

RARELY has Charles Egbert Craddock used her picturesque insight, her play of humor and her extravagant fancy to better effect than in "In the Clouds," and although the charm of novelty has passed a little, she has never made the Tennessee mountains,—that ideal range which has captivated her imagination, and which lacks little of the grandeur and sublimity of the Alps or the Himalayas,—more effective to her reader. There is an eerie touch in her first description: ". . . charged with the portent of the storm the massive peak of Thunderhead towers preëminent among the Great Smoky Mountains, unique, impressive, most subtly significant. What strange attraction of the earth laid hold on this vagrant cloud-form? . . . Kindred thunderheads of the air lift themselves above the horizon line, loiter, lean on its shoulder, with similarities and contrasts. Then with all the buoyant liberties of cloudage they rise! Alas! the earth clasps its knees: the mountains twine their arms about it: hoarded ores of specious value weigh it down. It cannot soar! Only the cumbrous image of an ethereal thing! Only the ineffective wish, vainly fashioned like the winged aspiration!" Up in the clouds, with the wild and magnificent peak of Thunderhead looming above them, the herders who tend their cattle in the mountain pastures are a simple, primitive sort of men, explaining nature's blind forces in myths, believing in witches and ghosts, spells and charms, above all in "that harnt of a herder in Thunderhead," who plays the part of The Wild Huntsman to their crude imaginations. Mink Lorey, the hero of the story, could not like the rest find satisfaction in sitting forever watching the changing aspects of the great peak. "I never kin get used ter it," said Mink desperately, "I never kin get used ter hev'in' sech dumbness about me, an' seein' the time go so slow. 'Pears to me some fower or five hundred year sence we eat breakfas',—an' I ain't hongry, nuther." Accordingly Mink fills up this yawning void of time by playing all sorts of pranks. "Mink by name an' Mink by natur," is the general verdict regarding the handsome, agile young fellow. He is, in fact, an untamed creature of the woods, a sort of fawn, a Tennessee mountain Donatello,—his soul only half developed, his bent toward mischief, his heart touched chiefly by his impulses, while his intellect is scarcely stirred except to devise practical jokes. His best friends suffer from his fun-loving instincts, and his hand seems to be against every man, and when trouble comes of some of his foolish pranks, every man's hand turns against him. His escape from custody on his way to prison gives the author an opportunity to show us not only the resource, the subtlety, but the loveliness of this half-wild creature. He finds a temporary refuge with Mrs. Purvine in his flight, and is generous enough to dread compromising the good woman for feeding a runaway. "'They ain't never ter goin' ter find out ez ye hev been hyar now?' said Mrs. Purvine. 'They might ax ye,' suggested Mink.

'Wa'al, lies air healthy.' Mrs. Purvine accommodated her singular ethics to many emergencies. 'Church yards air toler'ble full, but thar ain't any thar ez died from tellin' lies. Not but what I'm a perfessin' member,' she qualified, with a qualm of conscience, 'an' hev renounced deceit in general; but ef ennybody kems hyar inquirin' roun' 'bout my business,—what I done with this little mite o' meal, an' that biscuit, an' the tother pot o' coffee,—I answer the foolish accordin' to his folly, like the Bible tells me, an' send him rej'icin' on his way.'" We should like to quote many of Mrs. Purvine's speeches, for some of the best wit and humor in the book is contained in them. She is quite easily mistress of her own little world, but is thrown off her balance by town ways, as seen on the occasion of going to the city to testify at Mink's trial. The most stupendous fact which civilization could offer her was that the shops contained ready-made sun-bonnets. "My

cracky," was Mrs. Purvine's exclamation, feeling the insoluble nature of the problem, "who makes 'em."

"This old New-England-born romance of Agnes and the Knight," as Dr. Holmes says in his ballad about the heroine of Marblehead, is very engagingly told in Mr. Bynner's novel. It is rarely that the romancer finds so symmetrical and complete a story from real life ready to his hand. Agnes Surriage was a servant at an inn, and was washing the stairs one day when Sir Henry Frankland, the collector of Boston port, came in to be served. The girl's pretty bare feet and ankles, and her charming face, captivated the fancy of the rich Englishman, who felt that the girl deserved a better fate. He educated her, fell in love with her, carried her away to Europe, and finally, after Agnes had saved his life during the earthquake at Lisbon, he was moved to marry her and give her his name. It is a story of another generation, and other ideas than ours, and it is not so easy for us now to understand why even the richest and proudest of gentlemen should have done Agnes the injustice of not marrying her at the beginning. But the author has told the story very well; has preserved Frankland's consistency without making the worse appear the upper part, and above all has succeeded in giving us a charming characterization of Agnes, endowing her with beauty, charm, dignity and real worth.

The local coloring of the story is excellent, and the description of Marblehead, its natural configuration, and its quaint and rather picturesque settlement, must please every lover of the New England coast.

Miss Bessie Lansing, the heroine of "Half Married," is the daughter of a general, and has camped out, bivouacked, and shared every experience of life on the plains with her father, who has brought her up to be useful, and has made every effort to instill lessons of superior good sense into her mind. "She could cook a good dinner over a camp-fire, if necessary, saddle her own horse, and could start for any place with her father at five minutes' notice." Nevertheless, regarding her love-affairs Bessie showed herself one of the most illogical and capricious of her sex, discarding a suitor in every respect congenial for a man she merely respected. Detecting some slight indications of a want of tenderness and fine sympathy in her husband soon after marriage, she told herself that all hope of real communion of feeling between them was over. She lived "half married," as the writer would have it; had children, performed all the outside duties of her life with conscientiousness and fidelity, but all the time reserved all that was deepest and strongest in her own nature for her dreams of her old love. There is a triumph of right principle in the end, but the heroine has stood on perilous ground. Wives like Bessie do sometimes actually betray their trust. A husband may momentarily fail to idealize some of his wife's little souvenirs of a happy girlhood, and yet not be utterly destitute of every finer shade of feeling. The mission of wifehood is in general to inspire and charm; to interfuse spirit with matter, and teach dull husbands to see what otherwise they fail to see. Mrs. McConnell's book is written with plenty of spirit, and its faults are of that superficial kind which a little sober thought and some careful supervision would have obviated. For example, in the beginning of the fifth chapter an early breakfast by lamp-light is spoken of,—then on the following page occurs this sentence: "It was only seven o'clock in the evening, but it seemed hours since the early breakfast."

"Seems, madam; nay, it is!" the reader feels like remarking. Life may be short, but there is yet time for a novelist to re-read her text; also to assure herself that if she quotes Greek she quotes it correctly. "Agamé Gamé," which appears on the title-page, is not quite permissible.

It is always a pleasure to see one of Mrs. Whitney's books, and the volume before us is made up of excellent stories for young people, which have, no doubt, been gathered together from the periodicals. Mrs. Whitney is an author bent on realizing to her readers' mind the sacredness, beauty and worth of the little unseen things of everyday existence. She lives, as it were, not in real life, but in ideas of real life. She is occasionally a little too intricate and over-subtile, but her moral sincerity always gives force and temper to what she writes, and the impression left upon the mind is invariably wholesome, grave and sweet. She is besides one of the most practical of writers, and her fertility of resource is amazing. "Buttered Crusts," in the present collection of stories, is in itself a whole domestic treatise, besides being a sermon and a pleasant story.

The publishers have certainly done their best to make "A Sentimental Calendar" attractive, so far as paper, type and binding could go. The collection of stories the pretty little volume contains is, however, little calculated to fix the attention of the reader. If we except "Mrs. Knollys," which is still too fresh in our remembrance to call for another perusal, the book contains actually nothing with either substance or charm in it. An author who has written with the ability and force which much of the work of



J. S. of Dale shows, hurts his reputation by the publication of a book like this.

TCHITCHIKOFF'S JOURNEYS; or, Dead Souls. By Nikolai Vasilievitch Gogol. Translated from the Russian by Isabel F. Hapgood. Two volumes. Pp. 364 and 284. New York: T. Y. Crowell & Co.

This book is Gogol's greatest, as it is also his most extensive work, and it has long been recognized as a masterpiece of Russian fiction. To appreciate it, it is necessary to remember that it was completed in 1841, although not published until 1846, the year in which Turgenieff won his spurs by his "Annals of a Sportsman." By that time Gogol was already the victim of the madness which darkened his later years, and which led him to destroy the conclusion he had written to this story. That which is given here was prepared by another hand from his manuscript notes. Gogol is the first great novelist of Russia, and in some elements of power and of interest he has not been surpassed by any of his successors. But while this his greater work has long been known to French and German readers, it is now for the first time, we believe, that English and American readers are furnished with anything more satisfying than an analysis of its contents.

The strange title of the book is derived from a governmental practice which prevailed before the abolition of serfdom. From the time the Mongols conquered the country until within a year or two, the chief source of government revenue was a heavy poll-tax levied equally upon every person in the population, gentle or noble, bond or free, young or old. As the census, according to which this oppressive tax was assessed, was taken only at long intervals, the owner of an estate was assumed to be liable for just the serfs on the last census list, whether they were still living or had died, and for no other. Serfs who had died since the last census were assumed to be alive in law. They could be bought and sold, and of course they could be pledged for loans in the land and hypothec banks, established and regulated by the government. The hero of the book—if we may call him a hero—is a discharged custom-house official, who conceives the shrewd idea of buying the names of a great number of these dead serfs, securing an estate in an out-of-the-way province, then pledging them and the estate for a loan which will enable him to live at his ease. It is this mission which takes him from estate to estate in the course of the book, and gives the author an opportunity to describe the types of the Russian land owners, and thus to construct a picture of the condition of the country, the people and their masters, which is both fascinating and instructive.

That Gogol meant his book as a criticism upon Russian society and its institutions, seems to be assumed by all his critics. It is quite certain that he, like Turgenieff, was an ardent opponent of serfdom, and that the book was written at a time when the Czar Nicholas had excited great hopes of its abolition. And it certainly is true that the picture he draws of the masters is not one that would help to reconcile any one to the existence of the institution. But for all this we are not satisfied that the book is at bottom an emancipationist pamphlet, or that it has lost any significance with the abolition of serfdom. If the purpose were a polemic one, other elements than the weakness, the sentimentality, the thriftlessness and the *gourmandise* of the masters would have been put in the foreground. And the author would not have held up to our admiration Konstanzhoglo, the one landed proprietor whom he does not satirize, and whose most notable characteristic is his resolve to get as much work as possible out of his serfs. In truth, it is not serfdom, but Russia and the Russian character, which are the objects of Gogol's criticism; and the book has its lessons for the Russia of our times as well as for that of Nicholas. The author penetrates deeper than the institutional life of the country. He lays bare the weaknesses, the unpracticality of the Russian mind, and holds the mirror unsparingly before his own people.

Again, the book is classed by some critics as a realistic romance. The unrelieved sordidness of most of its details, the unsparing exactness of its pictures of Russian interiors, and the want of any nobleness or even honesty in the hero, would seem to justify the classification. But Gogol never acquiesces in all this. Before his mind there is an ideal of a noble Russia, which is implied in the most dreary picture of the actual one. And in Konstanzhoglo he brings this ideal Russia to speech in a good measure.

Of course the interest of the book is in the portrayal of characters. In this respect it is most masterly, because most true to reality. Gogol always denied that he was an imaginative person. He declared that he drew only from life. And we think the reader will feel that there is truth in this claim. He had studied Russia with open eyes. The people of Little Russia and of the capital he knew from intimate observation. We have no doubt that he drew from actual personalities the figures of this remarkable book, and that it is characterized by fidelity to fact.

If we may judge by a comparison with a German translation of "Dead Souls," Mrs. Hapgood's version is exact and faithful, as it certainly is fluent and readable.

ET AAR BLANDT DE INDFØEDE. Af Thomas. [A Year Among the Natives. By Thomas.] Pp. 294. Kristiania, Norway: Albert Cammermeyer.

BEGAVET. Fortælling af L. Dilling. [Gifted. A story by L. Dilling.] Pp. 265. Kristiania. Same publisher.

These two Norwegian stories come to us from a country whose greatest authors in fiction have set the example of brevity. The three-volume novel is unknown in Scandinavia; their longest tales hardly reach the limits of the French novel, and fall far short of the ordinary dimensions of an English or American one. And within these briefer limits room is found for effective portrayal of character and situation, while the very limitation in point of bulk exacts an artistic symmetry which our novelists, following the bad example set by Sir Walter Scott, generally fail to achieve.

"A Year among the Natives" is a story of life in a rural town of Norway, seen by a young student from the capital, who undertakes the direction of the principal public school of the place. It is not a flattering picture. He is struck with the loudness of tone, the want of polish, the intellectual limitations, and the subjections of public opinion to the dictation of a little knot of aggressive and intolerant "pietists" or—in English phrase—Evangelicals, one of whom edits the one newspaper of the place, while the other is the principal assistant teacher of the school. On the other hand he finds in the people a genuine freshness of character, an open hospitality, and a willingness to be pleased, which contrast with the faults of society in the capital. Himself a *candidatus theologie*, but of the Liberal school, he comes into sharp collision with the pietist party, but by dint of unflinching courage and presence of mind, he secures the support of his official superiors, who control the schools of the diocese, and carries his point in several directions. It is not until the arrival as priest of the parish of a mediatory theologian of the type of Bishop Martensen, that he finds his position broken down. His supporters are alienated, and he himself is obliged to choose between a perennial squabble over matters of no real significance and resignation. He chooses the latter course, and sets out for Germany to prosecute philosophical and scientific studies.

The book has many interesting situations and some original types of character. The poorest to our thinking in point of delineation are the family group of the Bergers, on which the author has spent most care. The enlightened father, the son driven to scepticism by the pietists, and the lovely and sympathetic daughter are all of them old acquaintances. Far more original is the portrait of Reiss, the wholesale merchant; who covers under the mask of cynicism the completeness of his dissent from the local mode of thought, and who, while professing to criticise the course taken by the hero, is indicating covertly the hearty sympathy with which he is watching his audacity. Next to this we put the portrait of Rev. Bernhard Blom, the bland, edifying, but really unprincipled parish priest, whose advent turns the current of the story.

Some months ago we noticed a volume of short stories by Herr L. Dilling. His "Gifted" is a story which shows his capacity of more sustained flights. Its tone is in many respects the opposite of the book we have just been discussing. The author's sympathies are more conservative. His standard of wholesome national life is not found in Kristiania, but in the rural districts. His real hero is Madame Norderud, a shrewd, sensible, sharp-tongued, but at bottom genuine and kindly woman, whose faith is that the life of the *bonder*—or small land-owner and farmer—is the best atmosphere for wholesome thinking as well as healthy living. Her nephew, the "gifted" young man, is the central and most prominent figure in the book, but in no sense is he heroic. His gifts are the excuse for his allowing his father and mother to work themselves to death on his behalf, while he lives a life of self-indulgence and self-culture. He makes love to one woman after another, and is prevented from marrying a young Dane only by the discovery that he is already betrothed to a young Parisian, and has been carrying on an elaborate flirtation with a handsome widow. Failing in his literary ambitions, unable to rise above the level of a *dilettante* farce-writer, he goes back to Norway sick of life and disgusted with experience. And here, in defiance of all poetic justice, the author makes him happy and prosperous, by wedding him to his good and beautiful cousin, who has been breaking her heart over him for years. What the fellow had done to deserve such luck we do not know.

The book contains some extremely clever situations, and shows some power of humorous sarcasm and genuine pathos. The relation of the two mothers to their "gifted" sons is an instance of the latter. Its weak point is the treatment of the tender passion.

We nowhere find the slightest evidence that Herr Dilling ever was in love. Another fault, which it shares with "A Year Among the Natives," is the superabundance of detail in the description of interiors. In this both authors reproduce a fault of the French school.

#### SONGS OF THE REBELLION.

BUGLE ECHOES; a Collection of Poems of the Civil War, Northern and Southern. Edited by Francis F. Browne. New York: White, Stokes & Allen.

SONGS AND BALLADS OF THE SOUTHERN PEOPLE, 1861-65. Collected and edited by Frank Moore. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

The first named of these books to some extent repeats the second, yet they may be fairly said to complement each other; together, they give not only the best collection of poetry of the civil war that has appeared, but probably present all of it that is worth preserving. In Mr. Moore's book, indeed, there is considerable included that it is not worth while to preserve on the score of merit alone, but the conditions here were so exceptional that we can afford to admit to the record a quantity of mediocre verse for the purpose of making this point of new departure of the South as marked as possible. The recent growth of Southern literature is a matter of general observation, but it is perhaps not so commonly remarked that the new growth, and especially in poetry, came through the exaltation of spirit excited by the war. Paul H. Hayne, W. G. Simms, and a few other writers quoted by Mr. Moore, were writing before that time, but of the more than one hundred names in "Songs and Ballads," over nine-tenths were first heard of in this "Storm and Stress" period. In "Bugle Echoes," on the contrary, among the writers of songs on the northern side we count nearly forty names which were prominent before the war. Mr. Browne's book, it is true, is more select, giving on both sides fewer writers than Mr. Moore gives on one, but that fact strengthens our position; it would have been easy for Mr. Browne to have widened his selections, while Mr. Moore has admittedly gleaned his field as closely as he could.

The reader will from this have gathered an idea of the comparative strength of these books before we remark upon it. Mr. Moore's is the more curious, and more historically valuable; Mr. Browne's is the more interesting and "readable." All the really best things of the "Songs and Ballads" are in the "Bugle Echoes," with the addition of the Standard Northern War-poems, but on the other hand "Songs and Ballads" seems to open to us the South as it was in those days of fire and blood, as very few books have the power to do. The editing has not been of the severe kind which Mr. Browne applied to his task, and the passionate resentments of the time are shown without gloss or apology. It is in this that the value of the book lies, Mr. Browne's effort having been to give only matters of genuine poetic worth, excluding simple expressions of vindictiveness. While "Songs and Ballads" is the completer in the sense of covering the ground, "Bugle Echoes" shows as much evidence of work in the arrangement as the other does in the collection of its material. Mr. Browne's annotations are often very much to the point, as where in "Dixie's Land" he informs us that this very distinctively Southern song was derived from a northern melody, a negro refrain dating from the time when Slavery existed in New York.

It is rather surprising to note how much there is that is solidly good in these songs of either selection. Those of us who clearly recall the time are apt to be prejudiced by the coarseness, silliness, vulgarity and mere unreasoning hate of much which was called poetry of the people in those days, but the trash was ephemeral and has disappeared, and as relates to the Southern songs, of which we here knew comparatively little at the time, they are welcome, even when not particularly good, as showing what that fever was like that sought to wreck the noblest system of government the world has ever seen,—and for such a cause! With this, there are many of these Southern expressions that are of a most noble and elevated kind—true cries of patriotism—and there are other cries of regret, of longing, of personal love, which move the heart, and must do so as long as they are read. Such a gem of pathos is "The Fancy Shot," by Charles Dawson Shanley, very like Bret Harte, and as good, we dare say, as anything Mr. Harte has written. Readers of "Songs and Ballads" cannot but note how much of this significantly true passion there is in the book. As a whole, the best work on that side seems to have been done by Henry Timrod, John R. Thompson, Paul H. Hayne and Francis O. Ticknor, but there are a score or more of single-poem authors, like Shanley, who are very noticeable. The successes on the Northern side are well-defined and known to all. The proportion of stirring sea-lyrics is singularly small. The tide was, of course, mainly a land-tide, but sea-fighting, or even sea adventure, is generally supposed to be an especially exciting theme. It does not appear to have been so for the poets of the great Rebellion. We

have looked through these volumes with much interest, the kind of interest that is removed from speculation upon what is "best" or "worst" as simple literary performance, yet we feel inclined to express the opinion that the best of all these many earnest verses is Mrs. Howe's "Battle Hymn of the Republic."

#### BRIEFER NOTICES.

THE "Lyrical Poems" of Mrs. Emily Thornton Charles (J. B. Lippincott Co.) doubtless lack the highest elements of poetry, but they undoubtedly also show a most graceful and pleasing fancy united with tendencies of real goodness and real desire to help mankind. However faulty the verse is in places, "good woman" is written all over this book; its sincerity, simplicity, and determination to "bear a hand" are not to be questioned. The book has much variety, consisting of songs—many of which have been set to music—pastorals, war-poems, sonnets, descriptive and narrative pieces, etc. Perhaps the pure lyrics are the most successful, but some of the narratives and personal sketches have merit. Special note may be made of the poems entitled "Robert Burns," "Unknown," "Farewell to Sight," "In June," "Summer Solstice," "The Ocean Legend," and "A Poet's Dream." A very delicate poetic faculty is displayed here. The volume is a beautiful one, and excellently adapted for a gift book.

Rev. Washington Gladden is favorably known as a contributor to the magazines, and under the title of "Applied Christianity" he has collected a number of his essays in a volume which Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. publish. While a serious writer, Mr. Gladden is not dull; his appeal, naturally, is made to readers who think and observe, and for such he is entertaining even while elaborating subjects almost to be called abstruse. The moral aspects of various social questions, such as socialism, labor, and Christianity in its application to wealth, amusements, education, etc., are considered in these papers, and Mr. Gladden brings to them all a keen intelligence, and a spirit in wide and generous sympathy with human suffering and need.

We cannot think that Mr. Oscar Fay Adams has made much of a success with his "Post Laureate Idyls." (D. Lothrop & Co., Boston). They are imitations of the Tennysonian verse in the "Idyls of the King," and simply as imitations are clever enough, but Mr. Adams seems to have an odd idea of parody. He apparently thinks it is enough to copy style, without saying anything in the copy that is amusing. So careful and conscientious is our author, that in reading we grow presently to believe that he has lost sight of his humorous incentive altogether, and is absorbed only by the idea that he is writing "like Tennyson." Mr. Adams has not thought this form of composition out sufficiently; with the knack of versifying and of imitation he shows here, he can do better than this. Added to the "Idyls" there are some occasional pieces that are not unpleasing.

#### AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS.

A NEW edition of Mrs. Rose Terry Cooke's poems is in the press of W. S. Gottsberger. This publisher will also bring out soon translations of Professor Ebers's story, "The Bride of the Nile," and "Leon Roch," a romance by Galdos.—Mr. Froude, the historian, is about to make a tour of Cuba and the West Indies. He is preparing a work on the wreck of the Empire of Spain.—An anonymous book, called "Through the Gates of Gold," is passing the press of Roberts Bros. It is a discussion of a future existence, from a novel point of view, and is said to be by a well-known author, who for especial reasons has chosen this method of publication.

A handsomely illustrated "History of the New York Academy of Sciences" is in preparation.—The author of "A Demigod," published anonymously recently by Messrs. Harper, is reported to be a teacher in the Boston Latin School, named E. P. Jackson.—The *Cosmopolitan*, the magazine lately established at Rochester, is to be removed to New York.—Three different translations have appeared in Paris of Tolstoi's "Souvenirs." They bear, each, a different main title, but each has the sub-title "Enfance—Adolescence—Jeunesse." M. de Vogué, who gives this title in his "Roman Russe" as that under which the work was published, calls it "the scarcely disguised autobiography of Tolstoi."

Mr. Frith, the English artist, is said to be engaged in writing his autobiography.—The Sandwich Islands have furnished seventy subscribers to General Grant's book. Over twenty thousand subscribers were obtained on the Pacific Coast.—Dr. J. Berrien Lindsay, of Tennessee, has completed the first of several volumes which he is editing, on the military annals of that State.—It is expected that one of the most interesting books of the winter will be the forthcoming biography and correspondence of Sir Joseph Napier.



Mr. Fulford Vicary, author of "A Stork's Nest," "A Danish Parsonage," and other successful books, is about to publish a new fanciful work called "Olav the King, and Olav, King and Martyr."

—Prof. Buchheim has written a "Biographische Einleitung" for the new critical edition of Heine's works, which Dr. Karpeles is editing, and which is appearing at Berlin.—The memoirs of Count Beust will be published this week in London. Their title is "Three Quarters of a Century." They are not quite complete; owing to the Count's last illness.—The "Hayward Letters" have disappointed all expectation. We have not seen a single favorable mention of the work, the critics agreeing that a unique opportunity was wasted by Hayward; and that as an individual he was remarkable for nothing but a monumental egotism.

Mr. Browning is said to have expressed himself greatly pleased with Mr. Arthur Symonds' Introduction to the edition of his works published by Cassell & Co.—Edward King's "Venetian Lover" will appear simultaneously in England and the United States, so that copyright may be secured in both countries.—Charles Dickens and Max O'Rell have been engaged for lecturing tours in the United States during next autumn and winter.

The literature of the professions is being wonderfully increased. This is especially true of books on medicine and surgery.—The name of the writer popularly known as "The Duchess" is now declared to be Mrs. Margaret Argles-Hungerford. The information is given apropos of the fact that a new novel from her pen is about ready. The title is not given, but the book is said to bear a resemblance to the same writer's "Phyllis."

—The fourth centenary of Goethe's Dr. Faust, the famous "sorcerer," is to be celebrated soon in the Württemberg village of Knittlingen.—Herbert Spencer, who has been restored to health, will publish this month, enlarged from articles already printed, a work which he styles "Factors of Organic Evolution."

Italy is to have a new review, one which is to be given exclusively to the discussion of feminine interests. Fanny Zampini Salazarro is to be the editor of this periodical, which is the first to show any positive intellectual progress among Italian women. The prospectus frankly says that, when she does not marry and become the centre of a home circle, "the Italian woman is, with rare exceptions, most unhappy, because she has not in herself the resources which are possessed by educated women in other countries."

The National Library of Brazil was in 1876 reorganized in all its departments. The nucleus of the library was the Royal Library of Lisbon, brought over by John VI. from its quarters in the Ajuda Palace in 1807-8, when he abandoned the Old World for the New. The collection had been formed by Joseph I. to replace that destroyed by the earthquake of 1755. In 1814 it numbered 60,000 volumes, and now apparently contains 140,000. It was augmented for many years by the copies sent by the Lisbon publishers in the spirit of our law on the deposit of copyright works with the Congressional Library, and it has received many donations from private citizens.

"The Liberal Year Book" is the title of a volume to be issued this month in London.—Mr. Justin McCarthy has been engaged for some time on a volume entitled "Ireland Since the Union," and Chatto and Windus now have it nearly ready.—Philip James Bailey's "Festus," a very famous poem in its day, is to be brought out in a new edition (the eleventh), revised by the author, who is living at an advanced age in England.

Harvard College has been left \$400,000 by the will of the late John O. A. Williams. The bequest, to be known as the "Williams Fund," is intended to aid needy and deserving students.—The late Hon. Daniel W. Lyman of Providence bequeathed \$50,000 to Brown University for the erection of a building, "for any use not sectarian," to be called the "Lyman memorial."—William Cushing of Cambridge, Mass., has prepared a companion volume to his "Pseudonyms," called "Anonyms," comprising the titles of 20,000 books and pamphlets, with the names of the authors.

General Logan had in preparation a work on the Volunteer Soldier which he expected to have ready in June next. We see the statement made by Rev. Robert Nourse, that the General was much disappointed with the reception of his book, "The Great Conspiracy." Mr. Nourse was an intimate friend of General Logan.—An association of ladies has been formed in Russia to prepare a complete new translation by women, and for women, of the Old and New Testaments.—The *Publisher's Weekly* has decided this year to extend the Index of its Annual Summary Number, which will be that for January 29, by giving a short title list by author, title and subject, of the books of 1886.—Keepers of news stands on the New York Elevated Railroad stations, having been submitted to systematic interviews on the subject, declare that more "libraries" and paper covered books are sold at 25 cents than at ten cents.

#### SCIENCE NOTES.

A FURTHER contribution to the discussion concerning the claim of Reis to the honor of inventing the telephone is made in the January number of the *Journal of the Franklin Institute*. Prof. Edwin J. Houston of the High School has had a correspondence with Dr. Stein of Frankfort-on-the-Main, editor of the *Elektrotechnisches Rundschau*, concerning the original form of the Reis telephone, which he publishes in the *Journal* with comments. Dr. Stein denies the possibility of transmitting speech with the original form of the instrument, because he says he had made a thorough trial of an instrument constructed strictly according to Reis's specifications, and had utterly failed to transmit articulate speech. He contends that this is due to an inherent defect in construction, and that any other result was impossible. The platinum contact, he says, does not rest directly upon the diaphragm, and hence each vibration must make and break the current, which would make the transmission of articulate speech impossible. The later form of the Reis telephone had a gravity contact, and the vibrations of the diaphragm thus produced undulations or fluctuations of the current, and this was found by Dr. Stein to transmit speech successfully. In reply Prof. Houston calls attention to the fact that the original instrument possessed a screw for regulating the contact, by which it could be made very nearly the same as in the later form, and suggests that Dr. Stein had failed to comprehend the use of this screw, which would amply account for his failure to obtain satisfactory results from the instrument. Prof. Houston also prints a letter from Prof. John R. Paddock, giving in some detail the result of his experiments on the identical instrument formerly used by Dr. Stein. He found that some articulate sounds could not be transmitted on it, but for many words and entire sentences it worked satisfactorily. He found an unusually strong current necessary to produce good results, but contradicts entirely the statement that there is any difference of principle from that of later instruments which would make its working impossible.

Mr. W. H. Booth, an English engineer, has an article in the *Journal* discussing the "hammer blow" of a locomotive driving-wheel, and suggestions for improved methods of obviating its unfavorable results. It cannot strictly speaking be called a blow, for as the wheel does not leave the rail the element of velocity is left out, but is simply a considerable additional pressure thrown upon the rail at each revolution by reason of the uncompensated vertical action of the counterweights which are for the purpose of balancing the piston action, the horizontal component of whose motion greatly exceeds the vertical component, while the action of the counterbalance weights is the same in both directions. The remedy which he suggests as most practicable is the enlargement of driving-wheels, which would diminish both the frequency and force of the blow; but he also suggests a plan for so arranging the springs of the locomotive by hanging them from bearings eccentrically mounted on the driving shafts, as to slightly shift the weight from side to side at each revolution of the wheels to an extent as nearly as possible counteracting the "hammer-blow."

A very interesting communication to the *Medical News* has been made by Dr. F. Peyre Porcher, of Charleston, on the influence of the recent earthquake shocks in that city upon the health of the inhabitants. In addition to the natural alarm and fright which were quite universal, some persons were attacked with nausea and vomiting, which recurred or persisted in several cases for days. Two gentlemen on the islands eighty miles from Charleston had their eyes filled with tears not to be repressed, but not caused by alarm, or fears for their personal safety, for the danger there was not imminent. Many persons experienced decidedly electrical disturbances, which were repeated upon the successive recurrence of the shocks. These were generally tingling, pricking sensations, like "needles and pins," affecting the lower extremities. One gentleman was completely relieved of his rheumatism; another, who for months was nervous, depressed, and entirely unable to attend to business, regained his former activity and energy. Several cases of mental disturbance, owing to anxiety and prolonged loss of rest, some of them persistent, occurred among Dr. Porcher's patients.

An English paper says that a Mr. W. J. Lancaster, of Colmore Row, London, has a very remarkable photographic apparatus, to be used for detective purposes or ordinary portrait photography. The apparatus is inclosed in a watch case, which opens in the ordinary manner by means of a spring. As the case opens, a miniature camera shoots out for a moment, shuts up again, and the thing is done. The sensitive plates to be used for the camera are miniature dry plates, and a store of these is to be carried by the operator in a specially prepared locket to hang on the watch chain. It is said that the miniature apparatus has been very eagerly welcomed by the detective police, and that the authorities

at Scotland Yard have decided to make extensive use of it. A detective who wishes to secure the portrait of a suspected character will only have to get close to his subject, and pretend to pull out his watch and look at the time, and the features will be registered. We may mention that for the sake of experiment, accurate and "speaking" likenesses were taken of a large number of the persons who mixed in the crowd at the recent socialists' meeting.

The Russian Government is engaged in one of the most extensive drainage enterprises ever undertaken in any portion of the world. The location is what is known as the Pinsk Marshes, in the southwest of Russia, near the borders of Galicia. This region is so extensive as to secure special designation in the ordinary map of Europe, and, in point of area, is very much larger than Ireland. The marshes have become famous in Russian history as a refuge of all manner of romantic characters, and have remained an irreclaimable wilderness up to within the last two or three years. In 1870 the Russian Government first took in hand seriously the abolition of this wild expanse. A large staff of engineering officers and several thousand troops were drafted into the region, and these have been engaged upon the undertaking since. Up to the present time, about 4,000,000 acres have been reclaimed by means of the construction of several thousand miles of ditches and canals, so broad as to be navigable for barges of several hundred tons burden. Just now the engineers are drawing up the programme for next year, which comprises the drainage of 350,000 acres by means of the construction of 120 miles more of ditches and canals. Of the 4,000,000 acres already reclaimed, 600,000 acres consisted of sheer bog, which has been converted into good meadow land; 900,000 acres of "forest tangle," which have been prepared for timber purposes by cutting down the underwood and thinning the trees; 500,000 acres of good forest land—forest oases in the middle of marshes—hitherto inaccessible, but which have been connected more or less by navigable canals, and thereby with the distant markets; and finally, 2,000,000 acres have been thrown open to cultivation, 120,000 acres of which have already been actually occupied. Beside making the canals and ditches, the engineers have built 179 bridges, bored 577 wells from 20 ft. to 80 ft. deep, and have made a survey of 20,000 square miles of country hitherto unmapped.

#### COMMUNICATIONS.

##### STATISTICS OF JEWISH MANUSCRIPTS.

To the Editor of THE AMERICAN:

In my review of Karpeles' "*Geschichte der Jüdische Literatur*," in last week's AMERICAN, I inadvertently stated that 27,000 Hebrew manuscripts had been published during the past fifty years. It should have been discovered.

CYRUS ADLER.

Johns Hopkins University, Jan. 4.

#### PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

- UNDER POLARKREDSSEN: Naturskildringer og Naturhistoriske Skisser fra Nordlands Indre Dale. Af Axel Hagemann. [UNDER THE POLAR CIRCLE. Pictures of Nature and Sketches of Natural History from the Inland Valleys of Nordland. By Axel Hagemann.] Pp. vii. and 205. Kristiania: Alb. Cammermeyer. Price, two-and-a-half kroner.
- BEGAVET. Fortælling af L. Dilling. [GIFTED. A Story by L. Dilling.] Pp. 265. Same Publisher. Price, 3 kroner.
- ET AAR BLANDT DE INDFØEDE. Af Thomas. [A YEAR AMONG THE NATIVES. A Story. By Thomas.] Pp. 294. Same Publisher. Price, three-and-a-half kroner.
- DEN DEDE. Fortælling af Octave Feuillet. Oversat af Oscar Tybring. [THE DEAD. A Story by Octave Feuillet. Translated by Oscar Tybring.] Pp. 172. Same Publishers. Price, 1.80 kroner.
- HOS POLITIKOMMISSÆREN. Humoresker af Jules Moinaux. I Udvalg efter Originalens Tredie Oplag oversat af H. Gleditsch. Mit 44 Illustrationer. [AT THE POLICE COURT. Humorous Sketches by Jules Moinaux. Selected and Translated from the third edition of the original by H. Gleditsch.] Pp. xi. and 125. Same Publisher. Price, 1.80 kroner.
- NATURENS LOV I AANDENS VERDEN. Af Henry Drummond, Professor ved den Skotske Frikirkens Universitet i Glasgow. Oversat med Forf.'s Tilladelse efter Originalens 15de Udgave af Birger Hall, Semandsprest. [NATURAL LAW IN THE SPIRITUAL WORLD. By Prof. Henry Drummond. Translated with the Author's Permission from the 15th Edition of the Original, by Rev. Birger Hall.] Pp. xvii. and 253. Same Publishers. Price, 3 kroner.
- TOWARDS THE GULF. A Romance of Louisiana. Pp. 315. \$1.00. New York: Harper & Brothers.
- THEIR PILGRIMAGE. By Chas. Dudley Warner. Illustrated by C. S. Reinhart. Pp. viii; 364. \$—-. New York: Harper & Bros.
- IN THE WRONG PARADISE, AND OTHER STORIES. By Andrew Lang. Pp. 255. \$—-. New York: Harper & Bros.
- A DEMIGOD. A Novel. Pp. 337. \$1.00. New York: Harper & Bros.
- WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE. By Victor Hugo. Translated by Melville B. Anderson. Pp. 424. \$2.00. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.

#### THE EXTIRPATION OF CRIMINALS.<sup>1</sup>

PREVENTION must be directed to two ends: the prevention of the recruiting of the criminal class, and the prevention of the commission of more crimes by the criminal class. The one will be measurably stopped by the rescue of children in degraded circumstances, where they are morally certain to become either criminals or paupers; the other will be accomplished mainly by putting the well-known, the professional, the determined criminals where they can no longer prey upon society, and where some of them, perhaps a considerable percentage of them, may be reformed.

The first, the rescue of the children, is an enormous task, much more difficult than the second. Many agencies are now directed to it, but the undertaking is so vast, it is complicated by so many domestic and social problems, that only a mitigation of the evil can be expected until the whole of Society is aroused to the absolute necessity of the moral as well as the intellectual training of the young, so that a united and general effort is made, not only for the care of the waifs and strays, the young barbarians of our feverish civilization, but for the rescue of all children predetermined to useless lives by vice or poverty. I believe that this is vital to the welfare of the republic, and that if we neglect it our efforts to repress crime will be as futile as to attempt to keep back the ocean tide with a broom. But I have only space to emphasize it, while passing to consider the treatment of actual criminals, a large portion of whom, alas! are young.

Admitting the necessity of more radical measures than prevail at present in the treatment of convicted criminals, it seems to me as unscientific as it would be un-human to return to the old barbarous methods, to attempt the extirpation of criminals by re-enacting the capital laws of the fifteenth century, or by inventing cruel and disabling punishments. It will never be done. The enlightened humanity of the age will never permit it. Science even cannot counsel it, for science cannot draw a line between the criminal class and the non-criminal, nor tell us even who are irreclaimable in the criminal class. We must go on in the course we have entered on, but we must go on more intelligently, more radically, and to the logical end. The plan to be pursued must be as free from sentimentality as from inhumanity.

This plan has two objects: the security of society, by placing determined criminals where they cannot prey upon it, and increase the burden of our taxation by their idleness and by their depredations; and, second, the reform of the prisoners.

In coming time the world will look back with amazement upon the days when it let known, determined criminals run at large, only punishing them occasionally, by a temporary deprivation of their liberty in short and determinate sentences. We can see to-day that it is a thoroughly illogical proceeding. The man determined upon a life of crime is of no use to himself at large, and he is both a danger and expense to the community. He commonly gives evidence in his character and his acts of this determination—evidence sufficient for the court which tries and sentences him; but if that is too uncertain, then conviction for a second offence may be legally taken to define his position. After the second offence the criminal should be shut up, on an indeterminate sentence, where he will be compelled to labor to pay for his board and clothes and the expense of his safe keeping.

The first step, therefore, in the extirpation of criminals is to shut up on an indeterminate sentence all those who, by a second offence, place themselves in the criminal class. We shall certainly come to this, and when we do society will be free of a vast mass of criminals, who will be where they earn their living, where they can no longer prey upon society, where they cannot corrupt the innocent, where they cannot increase their kind in the world, and where they will have the only chance possible to them for reform.

How shall they be treated? Kindly, humanely, of course, but not in any way pampered. The first requisite is their security. Society has a right to demand that they should be secure, and, secondly, that they shall not have an easier lot as criminals than honest men have outside the prisons. Rigid discipline is essential; discipline is the first requisite in any attempt for the improvement of the condition of the men, physically, morally, or intellectually. In any education, in the learning of any trade, it is the first requisite; it is emphatically so for boys and men distorted morally, intellectually, and physically. Hard labor is also essential.

What shall that labor be? It must, in the first place, be profitable, if possible; it should be such as will put the men in better condition, if they regain their liberty, to earn a living. It has been suggested that in such States as, say, Vermont and New Hampshire, where the railways have caused the country roads to be neglected, the convicts might well be employed in road-making. The suggestion is not unreasonable. Its adoption might increase the value of farm property and be of general benefit to the State. The objections to this are those that apply to the Southern lease system. It abandons all hope of reforming the prisoners, and it is demoralizing to the community. It would not be so bad as the Southern lease system, because in that the State relinquishes all the moral control of the prisoners to private persons, whose only interest in the convicts is the amount of work to be got out of them. The spectacle of the public punishment of convicts seems to me almost as demoralizing to the community as public executions. I saw once, on a road leading out of Atlanta, a gang of convicts, a wild, brutal gang, chanting the barbarous songs of Africa as they swung their hammers. By the roadside stood a guard of men with rifles leveled at the convicts. It gave me a shock; humanity was degraded by the spectacle. Probably the shock would have been less the second time I saw them, and I should gradually become so accustomed to it that I should not be shocked at all. But I should lose something of value in my moral nature in thus becoming used to it, just as I should in becoming hardened to the shock of public executions. I have no doubt that gangs of convicts distributed about the country have a bad effect on the moral tone of the community. And no reform of the convicts can be expected unless they are placed under severe discipline, where all good influences can be brought to bear upon them.

We can shut up confirmed criminals, and thus take the first neces-

<sup>1</sup> From an article by Chas. Dudley Warner, in the *New Princeton Review* for January.



sary step in the elimination of the criminal class. This is comparatively easy, and it is a wonder that a long-suffering and thrifty generation has not long ago taken it. The reform of convicts is a more difficult and discouraging undertaking. Many people think it impossible, except in sporadic cases, so few as not to encourage effort in this direction. They regard the time and money and sympathy expended in this effort as wasted.

But the effort, except in the Elmira system and a few copies of it, has not been anywhere scientifically or philosophically undertaken. No wonder, when the effect upon the individual character is so small even in our best model prisons, that the question of Prison Reform should be popularly regarded with doubt and indifference. The public mind has been so educated that it is quick to be indignant at any official cruelty in prisons, but it has not yet come to have any faith in the reforming influence of our improved prisons. Why should it?

Before it has, the prisons must show fruits, and the reformers must go on, and go far, in the direction they have taken. In most respects there must be a radical change in methods, a change based upon a deep knowledge of human nature. The key-note to the reform of any man—to his education, indeed—is the drilling him into good and fixed physical, moral, and intellectual habits. The more deteriorated or feeble the man is, the longer the process will be. For the confirmed and degraded criminal, the only chance of reformation is keeping him under intelligent discipline long

enough to eradicate his bad habits and fix him in good habits. To this end the indeterminate sentence is absolutely indispensable, a sentence that there is no hope of ending or abbreviating until he gives indisputable evidence that he is a changed man. He must, as at Elmira, work out his own salvation. And the hope of this system is that no man can for indeterminate years be subjected to a discipline which rigidly enforces good conduct, correct physical living, application to work, and mental drill and moral instruction, without forming some fixed good habits. It is an ethical and physical law. The time needed to form these habits will be short with some boys and men and long with others. I said, no man can be subjected to this discipline without benefit, if the time is long enough. Still, there are probably incorrigibles. The place for them is undoubtedly in prison, at hard labor all their lives. They are of no use elsewhere in the world. We must sternly dismiss the sentimental notion that determined, confirmed criminals, who have no intention of ever doing anything but preying upon society, have any right to liberty. What a burlesque upon our civilization, for instance, is our treatment of professional burglars!

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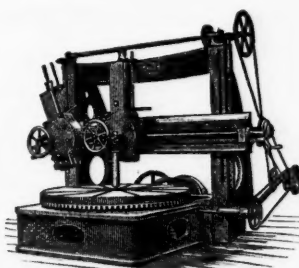
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Enclosed find . . . I am inquiring with myself what papers I can spare my poor eyes the pain, (or pleasure?) of reading, and cannot put THE AMERICAN on the list. Its "Review of the Week" is the best that I see.

M. K. C.

From New York (State):

I deem THE AMERICAN one of the best, if not the best, of the secular papers that come to me. Certainly there is not one that I read with more satisfaction and profit. I am happy to show it to my friends, and commend it.

J. B. W.

From North Carolina:

I have received THE AMERICAN during the last year, and have read each issue as soon after it was in hand as my engagements would allow. . . . I have found it interesting and instructive in every issue.

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## MANUFACTURERS.

—THE—

**William Cramp & Sons****Ship and Engine****Building Co.****PHILADELPHIA.**

## TRUST AND INSURANCE COS.

**THE GIRARD**

LIFE INSURANCE, ANNUITY AND TRUST Co. OF PHILADELPHIA.

Office, 2020 Chestnut St.

INCORPORATED 1836. CHARTER PERPETUAL.

INSURES LIVES, GRANTS ANNUITIES, ACTS AS EXECUTOR, ADMINISTRATOR, GUARDIAN, TRUSTEE, COMMITTEE OR RECEIVER, AND RECEIVES DEPOSITS ON INTEREST.

President, John B. Garrett.

Vice-President and Treasurer, Henry Tatnall,

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INSURANCE AT ACTUAL COST.

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NEW ENGLAND MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,

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No speculative features. Annual returns of surplus. Yearly progressive cash values fixed by Massachusetts law, indorsed on every policy. Equal to an interest-bearing bond, with insurance at nominal cost. An excellent collateral. No forfeiture.

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